

DOCKET NO: 289279US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SHINTARO HIKASA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: ROLLAND, ALEX A
SERIAL NO: 10/576,722 :
FILED: APRIL 21, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1712
FOR: METHOD OF HYDRAULIC :
TRANSFER AND HYDRAULIC
TRANSFER BASE FILM

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Now comes Takanori Isozaki who deposes and states that:

1. I am a graduate of the Graduate School of Science, Okayama University, and received my master degree of science in the year 1991.
2. I have been employed by KURARAY CO., LTD. for 19 years as a research scientist in the field of polymer chemistry.
3. I understand the English language or, at least, that the contents of the Declaration were made clear to me prior to executing the same.
4. The hydraulic transfer printing base film according to the present claim 8 makes it possible to inhibit extension of a transfer sheet which is prepared by forming a print layer on the hydraulic transfer printing base film when floating the transfer sheet on the surface of water to swell it. As a result, it is possible to transfer high-definition print patterns to the surface of a non-flat article with irregularities or a curved surface (*see* Specification; pg. 7, lines 16-23 and pg. 9, lines 18-22).

5. Marui does not disclose at all the specific nonionic surfactant nor the surface tension of the nonionic surfactant. So, a person skilled in the art cannot understand the relationship between the extension of the resulting transfer sheet and the kind of the nonionic surfactant from Marui.

6. Suzumura only discloses a cold water-soluble PVA film that is non-sticky at high humidity and Suzumura does not disclose at all the hydraulic transfer printing base film nor resulting transfer sheet. Accordingly, a person skilled in the art would not expect the result concerning the extension of the resulting transfer sheet from Suzumura.

7. As such, the results demonstrated in Examples 3-5 are unexpected in view of Marui and Suzumura.

8. The undersigned petitioner declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

9. Further deponent saith not.

Customer Number

22850

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Fukunori Isozaki
Signature

December 13, 2010
Date